

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method for treating or preventing an autoimmune disease or an autoimmune disorder comprising administering an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition and/or immune modulator composition comprising a whole cell of a bacterium from one or more of the genera *Rhodococcus*, *Gordonia*, *Nocardia*, *Dietzia*, *Tsukamurella* and *Nocardioide*s to a subject wherein said composition modulates a cellular immune response, and wherein the autoimmune disease or autoimmune disorder involves inflammation of the intima of a blood vessel and is a vascular disorder selected from the group consisting of atheroma formation (otherwise known as arteriosclerosis), myointimal hyperplasia (natural or following angioplasty), inflammatory and autoimmune thickening of the intima and/or muscular layer of blood vessels and myocarditis.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for immunizing a subject against an autoimmune disease or an autoimmune disorder comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition and/or immune modulator composition comprising a whole cell of a bacterium from one or more of the genera *Rhodococcus*, *Gordonia*, *Nocardia*, *Dietzia*, *Tsukamurella* and *Nocardioide*s and wherein the autoimmune disease or autoimmune disorder involves inflammation of the intima of a blood vessel and is a vascular disorder selected from the group consisting of atheroma formation (otherwise known as arteriosclerosis), myointimal hyperplasia (natural or following angioplasty), inflammatory and autoimmune thickening of the intima and/or muscular layer of blood vessels and myocarditis.

14. (Cancelled)

15. **(Cancelled)** A method according to claim 12 or claim 13 wherein the autoimmune disease or autoimmune disorder further involves inflammation of the muscular layer of a blood vessel, or of the heart.

16. **(Cancelled)** A method according to claim 12 or claim 13 wherein the autoimmune disease or autoimmune disorder is one which is preceded by or caused by a vascular disorder.

17. **(Cancelled)** A method according to claim 12 or claim 13 wherein the autoimmune disease or autoimmune disorder is selected from one or more of the following: arthritis, particularly rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, psoriatic arthropathy, scleroderma, thyroiditis, post-transplant intimal hyperplasia, graft rejection and vascular disorders.

18. **(Cancelled)** A method according to claim 17 wherein the vascular disorder is a vascular disorder which comprises an autoimmune element.

19. **(Cancelled)** A method according to claim 17, wherein the vascular disorder is selected from one or more of the following: Raynaud's disease or phenomenon, anterior uveitis, obliterative vascular disorder, atheroma formation (otherwise known as arteriosclerosis), arteritis, myointimal hyperplasia (natural or following angioplasty), inflammatory and autoimmune thickening of the intima and/or muscular layer of blood vessels, inflammatory blood vessel lesions, atherosclerotic heart disease, reperfusion injury, cardiac conduction disturbances, myocarditis, myocardial infarction.

20. **(Cancelled)** A method according to claim 17 wherein the graft rejection is chronic graft rejection

21. **(Cancelled)** A method according to claim 19 wherein the graft rejection is chronic graft rejection in the absence of an immunosuppressant.

22. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 12 or claim 13 wherein said bacterium is selected from one or more of the group consisting of *Gordonia bronchialis*, *Gordonia amarae*, *Gordonia sputi*, *Gordonia terrae*, *Nocardia asteroides*, *Dietzia maris*, *Tsukamurella paurometabola*, *Rhodococcus ruber*, *Rhodococcus rhodnii*, *Rhodococcus coprophilus*, *Rhodococcus opacus*, *Rhodococcus erythropolis*, *Nocardioides albus* and *Tsukamurella inchonensis*.

23. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 12 or claim 13 wherein said bacterium is killed.

24. **(Cancelled)**

25. **(Cancelled)**